

## **AMENDMENTS**

### **In the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0023] of the present application as described in United States Publication No. US-2003-0024661-A1 with the following paragraph –

--A co-catalyst can also be used to increase the rate and/or selectivity of the nitroxide mediated oxidation process. Particularly suitable co-catalysts are described in U.S. Patent No. 6,540,876, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. The co-catalyst is generally present in a catalyst-effective amount, particularly in an amount of about 0.005 to 5.0%, more particularly in an amount of about 0.01 to 0.5%, most particularly in an amount of about 0.01 to 0.2% by weight based on the weight of the cellulose pulp.—